

FEB 1952 51-4AA

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. 

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 16 October 1952

SUBJECT Biological and Chemical Warfare Activities

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF  
INFO.

25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE  
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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SOURCE

1. Research in biological warfare would be very difficult to carry out, with proper security precautions, in Slovakia. The laboratories there were not sufficiently modern to permit adequate protective measures. Before WW II, there was no independent army bacteriological laboratory in Czechoslovakia. If such laboratories now exist in Prague, it is possible that they utilize part of the facilities of the former Czech University which has been combined with the Charles University to form a single institution. In addition, biological warfare research could be carried on at the Bacteriological Institute of the University in Prague, and at the SZU (Statni Zdravotni Ustav) in Prague. Dr Karol Raska, 40, a very strong Communist, is bacteriologist at the SZU in Prague. He is interested in blood group research, and was in the US after WW II. Dr Raska was very active in the army until 1938, and it is possible that he has re-established his army ties. This would make the SZU an effective army organ for bacteriological warfare research.
2. I know nothing of the Purkyne Biological Institute; my guess is that it is, perhaps, a physiological institute attached to a university department in Prague.

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3. The Communist regime had intensified its accusations against the US for using bacteriological warfare in Korea. Protests against the use of bacteriological warfare by the US were circulated among physicians in Slovakia for signature. These accusations stated that the US had used infected snails, paper, and earthworms to spread virulent bacteria. The average peasant, [redacted] placed little credence in this propaganda. Continued use of such propaganda campaigns, however, could produce a belief that the US uses bacteriological warfare. 25X1
4. During World War II there was a factory in Novo Mesto nad Vahom /4845N-1750E/ which manufactured gas masks and similar material for protection against chemical warfare agents. I know very little about this factory, not even whether it was still in operation, but if it is I believe it is likely that it would still be used for the same purpose. After World War I and until 1938, a small laboratory at Lutinov near Olomouc tested CW agents and protective equipment such as filters and masks. Animals were used to test effects of war gases. I do not know whether this laboratory had been reactivated.
5. I know nothing of the medical research aspects of atomic warfare being carried out in the CSR. Work of this sort would be carried out in Prague, I am sure.

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